

MEETING RECORD

NAME OF GROUP: HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING: Thursday, February 19, 2004, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room #106, First Floor, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Tim Francis, Bruce Helwig, Bob Ripley and Terry Young; (Jerry Berggren, Jim McKee and Carol Walker absent). Ed Zimmer and Teresa McKinstry of the Planning Department; and other interested citizens.

STATED PURPOSE OF MEETING: Regular Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Chair Bob Ripley called the meeting to order and requested a motion approving the minutes of the regular meeting held January 15, 2004. Francis moved approval of the minutes, seconded by Helwig. Motion for approval carried 4-0: Francis, Helwig, Ripley and Young voting 'yes'; Berggren, McKee and Walker absent.

The opportunity was given for persons with limited time or with an item not appearing on the agenda to address the Commission. No one appeared.

APPLICATION BY BILL HENKLE TO VACATE A PORTION OF 'Q' STREET ADJACENT TO 800 'Q' STREET IN THE HAYMARKET LANDMARK DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEARING: February 19, 2004

Members present: Francis, Helwig, Ripley and Young; (Berggren, McKee, Walker and Young absent).

Ed Zimmer stated that the applicant is requesting vacation of 10 feet across the front of his property. Mr. Henkle would like to vacate the right-of-way to be used for ramps and parking. Mr. Zimmer believes this is a poor precedent to set, especially parking in the sidewalk area.

The Commissioners expressed concern for the impact on the pedestrian environment.

Francis made a motion to deny, seconded by Walker.

Francis stated that sidewalks are to be geared for pedestrians. The other Commissioners agreed. The Commissioners agreed they would be in favor of Mr. Henkle making application to use the right-of-way for a handicap accessible ramp.

Motion for denial carried 4-0: Francis, Helwig, Ripley and Young voting 'yes'; Berggren, McKee and Walker absent.

**APPLICATION BY CAPITOL SIGN COMPANY FOR A CERTIFICATE OF
APPROPRIATENESS FOR WORK AT 330 N. 8TH STREET IN THE HAYMARKET
LANDMARK DISTRICT**

PUBLIC HEARING:

February 19, 2004

Members present: Francis, Helwig, Ripley and Young; (Berggren, McKee, Walker and Young absent).

Dennis Plachy from Capitol Sign Company appeared. He explained that he is looking for direction from the Commission today. The antique mall would like to install a sign with a few lines of changeable text. The sign would have red neon with possibly neon around the border or flood lights on top of the sign. There would also be a lexan cover over the front with hinged doors. The Star City Dinner Theatre would be a similar sign.

Mr. Zimmer wondered about the clearance of the bottom of the sign to the pedestrian walkway on the dock. Mr. Plachy replied it is 8 feet.

Helwig believes this is a departure from the traditional Haymarket blade sign. Mr. Plachy replied that the tenant believes they need a sign that would be easier to see. Young agreed. The sign does not seem to fit the area.

Ripley cannot think of another building in the Haymarket that has this type of sign. The dinner theatre has changing performances and different needs than the average retail space.

Different design ideas and lighting schemes were discussed with the applicant.

DISCUSSION:

- FY04 HP Grant Application

Mr. Zimmer will try to bring this application in next month for the Commission's approval. The grant is likely to be more competitive this year. Mayor Fahey of Omaha is much more interested in preservation than past mayors. There is the possibility that Lincoln's portion could be smaller.

Ripley is encouraged that Omaha could be more interested in preservation. That is a long overdue effort.